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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,
PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT
LITIGATION

MDL No. 3084 CRB

**DECLARATION OF RACHEL B.
ABRAMS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO
WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR
PLAINTIFF J.H.**

This Document Relates to:

J.H. v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al;
3:24-cv-03441-CRB

I, Rachel B. Abrams, declare:

1. I am an attorney in the law firm of Peiffer Wolf Carr Kane Conway and Wise, LLP. I am admitted to practice before this Court. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge. If called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently to the truth of the matters stated herein:
2. Plaintiff J.H. has not responded to any efforts to reach her made by myself or my staff since October 22, 2024. Additionally, Plaintiff J.H. has been unable to provide Peiffer Wolf with adequate information to substantiate her case and fulfill her discovery

obligations.

3. Plaintiff J.H.'s failure to communicate with and provide sufficient information to our firm has presented a circumstance covered by Rule 1.16(b)(4) of the California Rules of Professional Conduct. We are unable to meet discovery deadlines and otherwise prosecute her case without her input. It is my opinion that our withdrawal from the case has become necessary.

4. Under the California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(d), my firm has taken all reasonably available steps to avoid prejudice to the rights of Plaintiff J.H. ("Plaintiff").

5. Plaintiff has failed to properly communicate with our office throughout her representation.

a. On August 29, 2023, Plaintiff retained Peiffer Wolf as legal counsel.

b. Between August 29, 2023 and June 4, 2024, Plaintiff received numerous emails, text messages, telephone calls, and voice messages requesting that she contact our office. These communications included two (2) unsuccessful phone calls where voice messages could not be left, seven (7) unsuccessful phone calls with voice messages, eight (8) unanswered text messages, and 13 unanswered e-mails.

c. During the aforementioned time period, our office and staff was in the process of collecting intake information from Plaintiff about her claim.

d. Plaintiff only contacted, or responded to contact attempts by, our office on eight (8) occasions during that time period.

e. On June 4, 2024, as Plaintiff's case was filed in the MDL, our office began contacting Plaintiff informing her of her discovery obligations and the Plaintiff Fact Sheet requirements.

f. Peiffer Wolf submitted Plaintiff's PTO 5 submission (ride receipt) and Plaintiff Fact Sheet with the information provided by Plaintiff.

g. On September 5, 2024, Uber's counsel informed our firm of an inconsistency between Uber's records and Plaintiff's discovery submissions.

h. Between September 6, 2024 and to this day, Plaintiff received numerous emails,

1 text messages, telephone calls, voice messages, and letters requesting that she
2 contact our office or provide requested information. These communications
3 included 14 unsuccessful phone calls where no voice messages could be left,
4 three (3) unsuccessful phone calls with voice messages, ten (10) text messages,
5 ten (10) e-mails, and two (2) letters. In these communications, we repeatedly
6 explained the need for her continued participation in the case, the risk that her
7 case may be dismissed, and that we would need to withdraw as counsel if she did
8 not contact our office.

9 i. During that process, our firm also conducted investigations to try and locate
10 alternative phone numbers and email addresses for Plaintiff, and even contacted
11 Plaintiff's husband via text message.

12 j. Between September 6, 2024 and to this day, Plaintiff only responded to two (2)
13 contact attempts. Plaintiff has completely ceased contact with our firm since
14 October 22, 2024.

15 k. On November 21, 2024, we sent Plaintiff a letter by U.S. certified mail
16 explaining that if she did not contact our firm by November 29, 2024, we would
17 choose to withdraw as counsel.

18 l. On December 11, 2024, we sent Plaintiff formal notice by U.S. certified mail
19 notifying her that we were withdrawing from her case.

20 6. Plaintiff has failed to provide our firm with appropriate information to substantiate her
21 claim and fulfill her discovery obligations.

22 a. On September 5, 2024, Uber's counsel informed our firm of an inconsistency
23 between Uber's records and Plaintiff's discovery submissions.

24 b. Plaintiff's ride receipt could not be confirmed or substantiated.

25 c. On September 25, 2024, after numerous unsuccessful attempts to contact
26 Plaintiff, our firm submitted additional information obtained from Plaintiff's file
27 to Uber, aiming to clarify facts in Plaintiff's case and aid in Uber's substantiation
28 of Plaintiff's subject Uber ride.

- d. On October 3, 2024, Uber's counsel and my associate met and conferred about Plaintiff's claim and the subject Uber ride.
 - e. On October 9, 2024, our firm submitted additional information to Defendants regarding the subject Uber ride.
 - f. On October 22, 2024, Plaintiff responded to our firm's phone calls and e-mails, and provided a variety of information to help substantiate her subject Uber ride.
 - g. Between September 5, 2024 and October 22, 2024, Plaintiff had failed to respond to (8) phone calls, three (3) voice messages, seven (7) text messages, and four (4) emails about this matter.
 - h. On October 24, 2024, Uber's counsel and my associate met and conferred a second time about Plaintiff's claim and the subject Uber ride, and discussed additional information provided by Plaintiff.
 - i. Despite the foregoing, neither Defendants nor our firm was able to substantiate or confirm Plaintiff's claim and the subject Uber ride.
 - j. Plaintiff ceased contact with our firm since October 22, 2024, despite receiving six (6) phone call, three (3) text messages, six (6) emails, and two (2) letters since that date.
 - k. In these communications during this time period, we repeatedly explained the need for her continued participation in the case, the risk that her case may be dismissed, and that we would need to withdraw as counsel if she did not contact our office and provide adequate information to confirm her claim and subject Uber ride.
7. On December 11, 2024, we sent Uber advance notice of our intent to withdraw from Plaintiff's representation.
 8. To date, Plaintiff has not agreed to voluntarily dismiss her claims and has not informed our firm that alternative counsel has been retained.
 9. Our withdrawal from this case will not impact the timing or schedule of this litigation, and we have taken all reasonable steps possible to avoid prejudice to Plaintiff by

1 informing her of her options and the consequences of failing to comply with case
2 deadlines.

3 10. I understand that pursuant to Local Rule 11-5(b), leave to withdraw may be conditioned
4 on our firm continuing to accept papers to forward to the client. We are able to accept
5 this responsibility.

6 Executed this 8th day of January, 2025 in San Francisco, California.

7 /s/ Rachel B. Abrams

8 Rachel B. Abrams

9 *Counsel for Plaintiff*